

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ICAE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 EA-10 FRB-03 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-11
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AGRE-00 OMB-01 SS-15 INRE-00 SSO-00 PA-01 /101 W
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O 071945Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2861

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 18236

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OECD
SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON SECRETARIAT'S FIRST DRAFT OF OECD
MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE

REF: A) PARIS 18011 (COMMUNIQUE TEXT), B) PARIS 17930
(COMMENTS ON ANNOTATED AGENDA)

1. TEXT OF FIRST DRAFT OF MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE
TRANSMITTED REFTEL A WILL HAVE FIRST AIRING AT HEADS OF
DELEGATION MEETING AT 3:30 P.M. ON FRIDAY, JUNE 9.
THE TIME INTERVAL IS DELIBERATELY DESIGNED TO ALLOW TIME
FOR DELEGATIONS TO RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS FROM THEIR
CAPITALS. AS REQUESTED IN REFTEL A, MISSION WOULD
APPRECIATE RECEIVING INSTRUCTIONS BY OPENING OF
BUSINESS JUNE 9, ON GENERAL ATTITUDE TOWARD COMMUNIQUE
U.S. SHOULD DISPLAY AT HEADS OF DEL, TOGETHER WITH
ANY SPECIFIC COMMENTS THAT OUGHT TO BE PUT ON THE
RECORD AT THAT TIME. WASHINGTON AGENCIES SHOULD BEAR
IN MIND THAT FRIDAY'S DISCUSSION WILL PROBABLY NOT BE
A NEGOTIATING SESSION. DELEGATIONS WILL MAKE COMMENTS
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WHICH SECGEN WILL CONSIDER IN POSSIBLE REDRAFT OF DRAFT
COMMUNIQUE WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED AT MINISTERIAL
MEETING ON HIS RESPONSIBILITY.

2. WITH RESPECT TO SECTIONS OF COMMUNIQUE DEALING
WITH CONCERTED ACTION, SECRETARIAT (MARRIS) HAS
SPECIFICALLY CALLED MISSION'S ATTENTION TO THREE POINTS

IN WHICH SECRETARIAT HAS DELIBERATELY GONE BEYOND
CHAIRMAN SCHULTZE'S OUTLINE OF CONCLUSIONS OF THE
ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE'S MEETING OF MAY 29-30,
AS TRANSMITTED STATE 141949/1. THESE ARE:

- THE LAST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH 11, SUB-PARAGRAPH
(I), AND PARTICULARLY THE LAST CLAUSE THEREOF
WHICH POINTS TO THE "PARTICULAR RESPONSIBILITY"
OF COUNTRIES IN A STRONG BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS
POSITION. SECRETARIAT FELT THAT IT WAS WORTH-
WHILE TO TRY TO VENTURE A DEGREE BEYOND THE EPC
DISCUSSION TO SEE WHETHER COUNTRIES AT THE OECD
MINISTERIAL MIGHT BE WILLING TO ACCEPT THIS
SOMEWHAT MORE POINTED FORMULATION.

- THE LAST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH 11, SUB-PARAGRAPH
(II), HAS BEEN ADDED TO PINPOINT THE PARTICULAR
RESPONSIBILITY OF THE UNITED STATES TO DAMPEN A
TREND OF ACCELERATING INFLATION. SECRETARIAT
FELT THIS WAS USEFUL ADDITION ON ITS OWN MERITS,
AS WELL AS TO PROVIDE BALANCE AND TRADE-OFF FOR
THE ABOVE-MENTIONED UNDER PARAGRAPH 11 (I).

- IN PARAGRAPH 12, SECRETARIAT SUGGESTS THAT MINISTERS
"TOOK NOTE" OF THE OECD SECRETARIAT NUMERICAL
EXERCISES WHICH HAVE INDICATED THE KIND OF
MAGNITUDES THAT MIGHT BE INVOLVED IN ACTIONS BY
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THE COUNTRIES NAMED IN PARAGRAPH 11 (I) UNDER
CONCERTED ACTION. MARRIS' EXPLANATION HERE IS
THAT THIS SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AS A SECRETARIAT
ATTEMPT TO GO BACK ON THE AGREEMENT MADE AT THE
EPC AND IN INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN
CHAIRMAN SCHULTZE AND SECRETARY-GENERAL VAN LENNEP.
RATHER, GIVEN TENOR OF RECENT PRESS PLAY TO THE
EFFECT THAT THE EPC HAD "REJECTED" SECRETARIAT'S
PROPOSALS FOR CONCERTED ACTION, THE LANGUAGE IN
PARAGRAPH 12 IS DESIGNED TO INDICATE THAT
MINISTERS HAD NEITHER REJECTED NOR APPROVED SUCH
NUMERICAL PROPOSALS.

3. MARRIS UNDERLINED THAT SECRETARIAT RECOGNIZES
THAT NONE OF THESE AMENDMENTS OF EPC CHAIRMAN'S LANGUAGE
"MIGHT FLY", BUT SECRETARIAT OF COURSE FEELS THAT THEY
WOULD BE VALUABLE ADDITIONS TO THE CONSENSUS REACHED BY
THE OECD MINISTERIAL MEETING IF COUNTRIES COULD BE
BROUGHT TO ACCEPT THEM.

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ACTION EUR-12

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4. THIS IS OBVIOUSLY APPROACH SECRETARIAT HAS EMPLOYED
THROUGHOUT THIS DRAFT SETTING FORTH
MAXIMALIST POSITIONS, NOT ONLY ON PROGRAM FOR CONCERTED
ACTION, BUT ON ENERGY (WHERE IEA MINISTERIAL
DECISION IS SPECIFICALLY ENDORSED IN OECD-WIDE
DOCUMENT) AND ON PROPOSED STUDY OF INCREASING FLOWS
OF INVESTMENT TO LDC'S. FOR THE SAME PURPOSE THE
WORDS "AGREEMENT" AND "PROGRAMME" ARE SPRINKLED
LIBERALLY THROUGHOUT.

5. IN PRESENTATION AND STRUCTURE THE DRAFT COMMUNIQUE
IS A COHERENT AND EFFECTIVE DOCUMENT. THE MAJOR
QUESTION IS THE POSTURE WE SHOULD TAKE ON OECD
COMMUNIQUE IN RELATION TO BONN SUMMIT (AND TAKING INTO
ACCOUNT INFORMAL UNDERSTANDINGS DEVELOPED IN THE
SUMMIT PREPARATORY GROUPS). WE DO NOT HAVE ANY
INDICATION AS YET ON EC COUNTRY ATTITUDES. THEY MAY
WELL SEEK TO WHITTLE DOWN OECD FORMULATIONS IN ADVANCE
OF BREMEN CONSIDERATION OF SAME ISSUES.

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6. IF USG INTENTION IS TO USE OECD MINISTERIAL
TO PIN DOWN PUBLICLY GENERAL POLICY DIRECTIONS TO
MAXIMUM EXTENT IN ADVANCE OF BREMEN AND BONN,
US DEL'S POSITION SHOULD NOT OPPOSE MAXIMALIST THRUST,
LEAVING THAT TO OTHERS. WE SHOULD SAVE OBJECTIONS
FOR SPECIFIC POINTS TROUBLESOME TO U.S. IN ANY
EVENT THIS WOULD SEEM TO BE APPROPRIATE TACTIC FOR
FRIDAY FIRST ROUND OF DISCUSSION WHEN WE MIGHT
BETTER JUDGE WHICH COUNTRIES ARE OPPOSED TO
WHICH SECTIONS AND WITH WHAT STRENGTH. FRIDAY'S
DISCUSSION MAY NOT PROVIDE ACCURATE INDICATION OF
EC-9 POSITIONS AS THEY MAY CAUCUS SOMETIME BEFORE
MINISTERIAL MEETING.
SALZMAN

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